

DOWNTOWN SITE FOR POST-OFFICE

The Treasury Officials Seem to be so Inclined.

DAY IS SPENT IN LOOKING OVER FIELD

Assistant Secretary Edwards Says Before Leaving That His Decision Will Be Announced in Few Days—Saw Entire City.

After spending a day in looking over the city, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Edwards and Supervising Architect Taylor, who came down from Washington Tuesday night with reference to a site for the proposed new Federal building, left for the national capital yesterday afternoon, and declared that the matter would be finally settled in a few days.

"We have two hundred public buildings to locate," said Mr. Edwards to a gentleman who was with him officially during most of his stay here, "and you can readily see that we haven't a great deal of time to spend on any one of them. You will hear from us in a few days, and then the matter will be settled once for all."

While no one is in a position to definitely state what will be the decision of the Federal officials with reference to the matter, the prevailing opinion unquestionably is that the new Federal building will be finally located on the present downtown site, and that in the meanwhile temporary quarters for the post-office will be secured on Broad Street.

Messrs. Edwards and Taylor were warmly received in Richmond. Congressman Lamb and Postmaster Cabell look them practically all over the city in an automobile, and they were then met by a large number of the most prominent business men here, who conferred with them as to the various sites proposed.

Wants It Downtown.

Postmaster Cabell expressed views in the conference favorable to a downtown site. Architect Taylor appeared to favor locating the building on Broad Street. He suggested the block on Broad between Ninth and Tenth streets as a proper and convenient place. He thought the Shafter Building could be disposed of for about \$250,000, and he suggested that \$100,000 of this amount be taken to improve the site, and the present Federal building for the courts and custom house.

This would leave \$150,000 to be added to the \$800,000 appropriated, and would make a very comfortable sum for the construction of a new building.

Judge Edmund Waddill was present, and while he primarily favors Broad Street, he said he would be willing that the new building should go on the south side of Main Street, between Ninth and Tenth. Mr. Cabell at once agreed to this view, and Mr. Edwards seemed much impressed with it. Mr. Charles B. Cooke, of the Evening Star, spoke earnestly for a Broad Street site, and he was followed by Mayor McCarthy.

Make Clean Sweep.

"The block of buildings now occupied by this present post-office, the Shafter Building and others," said this hour, "I will wipe off the face of the earth, and in its stead I would see a greenward, with an unbroken approach from Main Street to the State Capitol, in our central park."

"Gentlemen, one of you is an architect, and both are presumably judges of beauty. And I say to you that not in the confines of this great republic will you find a purer picture of architectural beauty than the front of the State Capitol of Virginia."

"But, gentlemen, you have not seen it to advantage, nor have I seen it to advantage, nor will it ever be seen in its classic and clear-cut loveliness until this present pile of chiseled granite in which it is enshrouded is removed. The Capitol may be viewed through an unobstructed vista from Main Street, enshrined on its grassy hill and mellowed by the light of the moon."

To place the new post-office down here, gentlemen, would be to bury a monument in a hole in the ground; to adopt my suggestion would be to place the edifice on a hill. Which proposition appears the more practical?"

Many Others Heard.

Representatives of the Central Trades and Labor Council spoke for Broad Street, and in the afternoon Messrs. Joseph Bryan, John P. Branch, Coleman Wortham, R. A. Dunlop and other prominent business men appeared in the interest of the Main Street location.

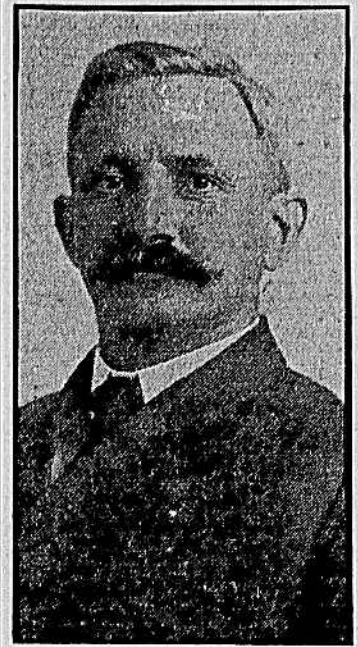
Messrs. Edwards and Taylor took the 5:05 P. M. Seaboard Air Line train for Washington. They are expected to reach their loved one in a few days, and it is believed that it will be favorable to a downtown site. In this event temporary quarters will be secured on Broad Street, and work will be started on the new building in a few months.

The appropriation available for the new building is \$800,000, and that for temporary quarters is \$200,000. Congressman Lamb has worked earnestly throughout the struggle to secure a Richmond new Federal building, and was with Messrs. Edwards and Taylor during their entire stay here.

MANSFIELD TOO ILL TO GO ON THE ROAD

NEW YORK, March 27.—Announcement that Richard Mansfield, the actor, has abandoned his spring tour through the country owing to his illness, was made today by B. D. S. Stevens, Mr. Mansfield's manager. Mr. Mansfield is now so ill from nervous exhaustion that he is confined to his bed at his home in this city, and his physicians, after a consultation today, ordered that he take a long rest.

MR. WHITTLESEY, SEABOARD'S NEW GEN'L MANAGER



Operative Man of the System Has Had Thirty Years' Successful Experience.

Mr. T. F. Whittlesey, who has just been appointed general manager of the Seaboard Air Line Railway, has been for two years general manager of the Mobile, Jackson and Kansas City Railway, at Mobile, Ala. He was born at Richmond, Ky., March 19, 1856, and is, therefore, fifty-one years old. Practically all his life since he attained manhood has been spent in the railway service, which he entered at the age of twenty as a freight clerk for the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Railway, at West Detroit, remaining there two years. He was then made clerk in the chief engineer's office of the same road at La Porte, Ind., and Toledo, Ohio, and spent three years in that capacity.

In March, 1881, he was promoted to assistant trackmaster of the Air Line division of the same road at Toledo, and in the following year he held the post of trackmaster of the Chicago division, and that in the meanwhile temporary quarters for the post-office will be secured on Broad Street.

CONFERENCE AT WHITE HOUSE

Plan Outlined to Be Presented to Next Congress for Federal Regulation of Railroads.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 27.—An important conference was held at the White House to-night, at which the railroad situation generally was discussed. Those present were Secretary of the Treasury Cortelyou, Secretary of the Interior Garfield, Assistant Secretary of State Bacon, Chairman Knapp and Special Counsel F. B. Kellogg, of the Interstate Commerce Commission, and all the members of the commission except Messrs. Prouty and Cockrell, who are out of the city. The conference lasted two and a half hours.

After the conference adjourned it was stated that the meeting was called to outline a scheme to be presented to the next Congress for the Federal regulation of the railroads of the United States. The plan proposed by Jacob H. Schiff for remedying the railroad situation, which has attracted a great deal of attention, was not taken up at the conference. Mr. Kellogg, who has charge of the Harriman investigation, denied that this question was brought up at the conference.

TWO DROWN AT NEWPORT NEWS

William Hodges, of Norfolk, Falls Between Car Floats and Tug.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] NEWPORT NEWS, VA., March 27.—The dead body of William Hodges, who was drowned in the harbor here two months ago, was found floating in Chesapeake and Ohio piers into this afternoon. The corpse was identified by a signet ring and papers, and a coroner's jury found a verdict of accidental drowning.

Young Hodges was employed by the Southern Railway at Norfolk. He came over here on a car float and lost his life by falling between the float and a tug.

Workmen on the pier at Sewall's Point today found floating in Hampton Roads the body of James Lyons, who committed suicide by jumping off the pier ten days ago. Lyons formerly lived in Baltimore, but had been employed at the ship yard here for some time.

Rev. H. H. Covington Declines.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] SUMMITT, S. C., March 27.—Rev. H. H. Covington has declined a call to the Monumental Church. His letter of declination was mailed to the vestry yesterday.

"SILENT" SMITH DEAD IN JAPAN

Jumped From Poverty to Wealth—Dies of Heart-Disease.

WAS ON WEDDING TRIP AROUND WORLD

Married Mrs. Rhinelander Stewart, a Divorcee—Was Worth Seventy-Five Millions, Most of Which He Inherited from His Uncle.

NEW YORK, March 27.—A dispatch received here today from Tokyo announces the death of James Henry Smith, one of the wealthiest capitalists of this city.

At the time of his death Mr. Smith was on a wedding tour around the world. His bride was the divorced wife of William Rhinelander Stewart, of New York. Mr. Smith's death occurred yesterday at Kyoto, Japan. A dispatch received here Monday said that Mr. Smith was dangerously ill of heart disease. In the party with Mr. and Mrs. Smith were the Duke and Duchess of Manchester.

A few years ago Mr. Smith inherited from his uncle, George Smith, a fortune estimated at \$50,000,000. Something more than two years ago Mr. Smith bought the house at the corner of Fifty-seventh Street and Fifth Avenue, owned and occupied by the late William C. Whitney. The lavish entertainments given by him during his bachelorhood days were among the most notable in New York fashionable circles. Prior to coming into the estate of his uncle he conducted a brokerage business and was known as "Silent" Smith.

On Honeymoon.

Mr. Smith and Mrs. W. Rhinelander Stewart, of Baltimore, were married at Inverness, Scotland, on September 12th last, and shortly afterwards started with several friends on a tour around the world on the Direct yacht *Margaret*, which Mr. Smith had chartered.

Mrs. Smith was Miss Annie M. Armstrong, of Baltimore, and Philadelphia. In 1872 she married W. Rhinelander Stewart, from whom she obtained a divorce in South Dakota in August last year. A few days after the divorce was granted she sailed with her daughter, Miss Anita Stewart, for England, and her marriage to Mr. Smith occurred in the following month.

Engage Smith, the founder of the great fortune which fell to James Henry Smith upon the old man's death, was one of the oldest bankers of Chicago and the Northwest.

One of Mr. Smith's most profitable investments probably was a purchase of a large amount of Argentine bonds, which he obtained at 20 and sold at par. This single investment is said to have netted him more than \$10,000,000 profit. Mr. Smith never married, and at his death the bulk of his great fortune went to his nephew, James Henry Smith's inheritance was estimated at \$50,000,000, but his fortune had increased rapidly since it fell into his hands in 1870, and the estate now is estimated at between \$50,000,000 and \$75,000,000.

His body will be brought home for burial.

FIREWORKS BLOW UP ONE MAN KILLED

Head of Arnold Ruff Torn from His Body—Three Others Burned.

NEW YORK, March 27.—A spark caused by a blow from a hammer ignited a quantity of set pieces in the building rooming house of a company at Graniteville to-day, and an explosion that followed one man was torn to pieces, a boy and two girls were probably fatally injured and seven other persons were burned.

Henry Paul, a boy, was nailing the wooden bottom on a "geyser" piece, when a spark from his hammer started a fire that almost instantly filled the rooming house with smoke and blazing magnesia bulbs. There was a rush for the door, and many of the employees had reached the outside when a terrific explosion rent the building and enveloped it in flames.

Arnold Ruff, aged thirty years, was killed instantly. His head was torn from his body. Paul was burned from head to foot, as were Helen Decker, aged seventeen, and Margaret Koski, nineteen years old. These three, it is thought, cannot recover. Hazel Decker, twin sister of Helen, was the most seriously burned of the others. The monetary loss was small.

POLICEMAN KILLS BREAD-BOX ROBBER

PHILADELPHIA, PA., March 27.—William McElroy, twenty-eight years old, was shot and fatally wounded by a policeman while resisting arrest for stealing bread. The policeman detected McElroy robbing a grocery's breadbox and fired at him when he attacked the officer, and the latter drew his revolver. In the scuffle the pistol was discharged, the bullet entering McElroy's brain.

NO MORE NEGROES TO BE ENLISTED IN ARMY

HOUSTON, TEXAS, March 27.—An announcement was made today at the local recruiting station that orders have been received from the War Department at Washington instructing that no more negroes be accepted for service in the army. Announcement was also made that all negro troops in the United States will be dispatched forthwith to the Philippines.

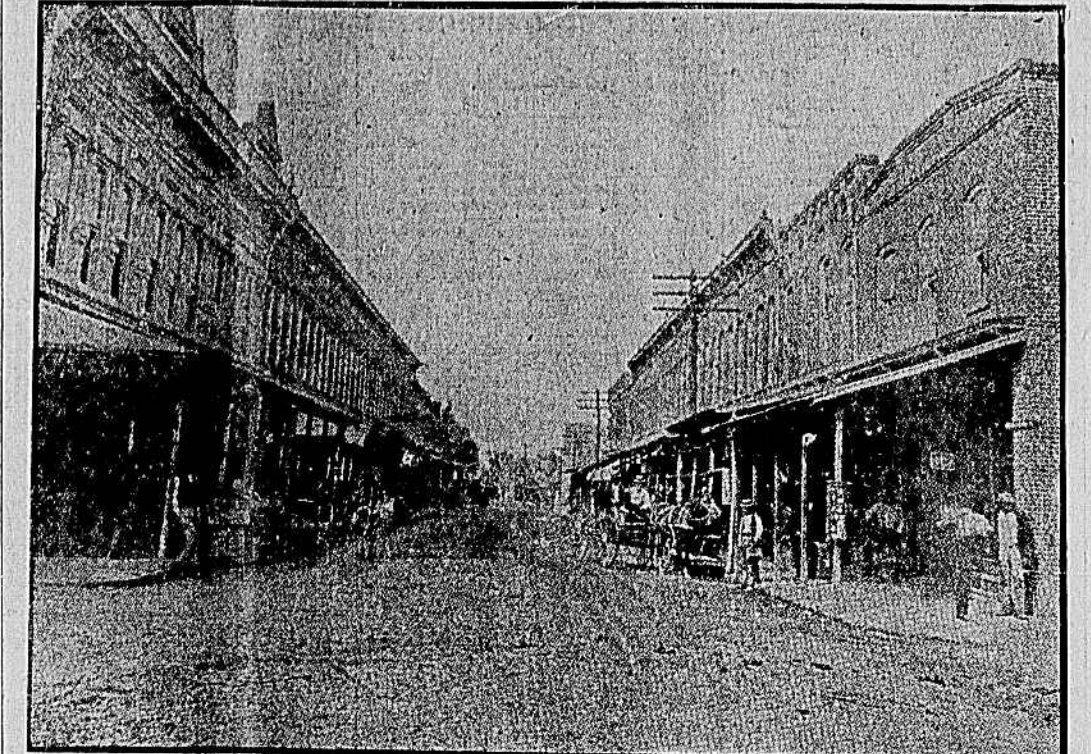
ENGINEER KILLED AND TWO OTHERS INJURED

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] LINDEN, ALA., March 27.—Engineer Fitzgerald was killed and Baggettmaster Galt and one passenger were injured in the derailment of westbound Louisville and Nashville passenger train half a mile west of Thomsonville late today. It is said that iron piled on the track caused the entire train to leave the rails.

ASHES OF MERIWETHER LEWIS WILL STAY IN TENNESSEE

NASHVILLE, TENN., March 27.—The Tennessee Legislature today adopted a resolution refusing the request of Oregon to allow the ashes of Captain Meriwether Lewis, the famous explorer, to be taken to that State for interment. When Mrs. Sage examined the plans prepared she decided that an additional gift would be required.

POINDEXTER STREET, ELIZABETH CITY, WHERE NEARLY \$500,000 FIRE OCCURRED



Pointexter Street, Looking North From Matthews.

ELIZABETH CITY IS FIRE-SWEPT

Blaze, Thought to Be Under Control, Destroys Nearly Half Million of Property.

LIMITS OF BURNT DISTRICT

Pointexter Street, Where Flames Originated, Suffers Greatest Loss.

ELIZABETH CITY, N. C., March 27.—A fire of unknown origin, which started here at a late hour last night, resulted in an estimated loss of between \$400,000 and \$500,000 in property. It was thought that the fire, which originated in the large brick building occupied by the Olive Grocery, on the west side of Pointexter Street, and which was completely destroyed, was under control, but it started again at an early hour to-day with renewed vigor, and spread rapidly. The establishments of Messrs. Broughton and Ethridge, H. H. Lavenstein, L. S. Gordon, B. T. Harris, Joseph Elsenberg, L. Lavenstein, Lavenstein Brothers, T. W. Williams and C. A. Johnson were totally destroyed. The establishment of the D. M. Jones Company, one of the largest wholesale and retail hardware concerns in the State, was damaged to the extent of about \$25,000, with small insurance. It is estimated that the total loss to the stocks in the various establishments is about \$250,000, and on the buildings about \$150,000 to \$200,000.

UNIQUE SUICIDE OF SUFFOLK MAN

Jumped Down a Chimney and Became Wedged in the Flue.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] SUFFOLK, VA., March 27.—The body of Thomas Deloach, who for three weeks had been missing mysteriously from his home in Southampton, today was found dead in the chimney of a vacant house, not far away from his residence.

Deloach had climbed to the top of the house and jumped down the flue, thereby choosing one of the most unique methods of self-destruction on the suicide annals of this section. Attracted by flies and circling vultures, the searchers broke in and saw the body wedged in the flue, the cause protruding into the open fireplace. The body had become wedged and would descend no further. In order to get the chimney head to be torn down.

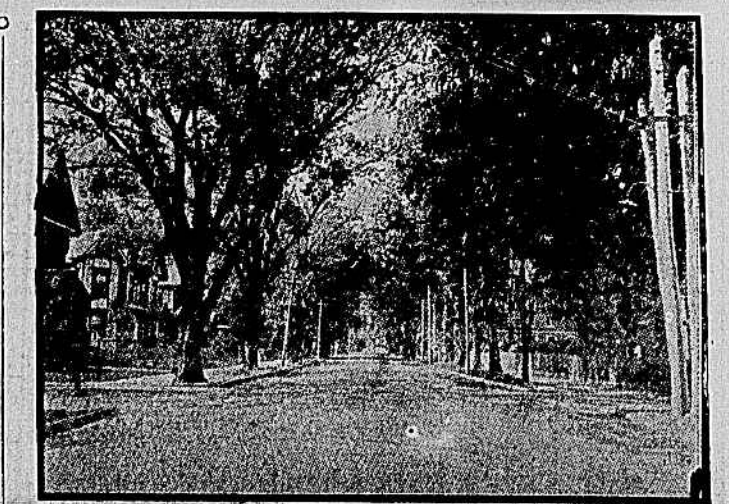
FATAL RESULTS OF MOTOR CAR ACCIDENT

PHILADELPHIA, March 27.—One man was fatally injured and two others were hurt on Broad Street early today in an automobile accident, which the police say was due to reckless speeding.

The chauffeur attempted to turn a corner while going at a great speed and ran the car into a telegraph pole. Stephen Hotel sustained a fracture of the skull and is otherwise so seriously injured that the doctors say he cannot live. The other three who were hurt are Robert Madden, Joseph Manning and James Carr, all of this city. Arthur Jones, the chauffeur, was arrested.

Y. M. C. A. INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE GETS \$100,000

NEW YORK, March 27.—At a meeting today of the International Committee of the Young Men's Christian Association it was announced that Mrs. Russell Sage had added \$100,000 to her recent donation of \$250,000 for the building of a home for the committee. When Mrs. Sage examined the plans prepared she decided that an additional gift would be required.



JUDGE O'BRIEN WILL NOT SERVE

Resigns from the Commission and Is Succeeded by David McClure.

NEW YORK, March 27.—After the jury which has been trying Harry K. Thaw for more than two months past was excused to-day until next Monday morning, and the members of the lunacy commission named yesterday by Justice Fitzgerald to inquire into Thaw's present state of mind had been sworn in, there came the sudden announcement, late in the afternoon, that former Supreme Court Justice Morgan J. O'Brien, the chairman of the commission, had resigned.

In a letter to Justice Fitzgerald, Judge O'Brien stated that upon reflection, he was forced, because of the condition of his health and professional engagements previously entered into, to decline to serve as a member of the commission. Justice Fitzgerald immediately made a new order, appointing David McClure, a well-known attorney of this city and a member of former Police Commissioner McAdoo's advisory committee of citizens, to fill the vacancy.

Mr. McClure met the other members of the commission this afternoon and was selected as chairman. Later, he announced that the first session of the commission will be held to-morrow afternoon at 2 o'clock in the courtroom of the City Hall.

Justice Fitzgerald administered the oath of office to the commissioners and talked with them concerning the case and their duties in connection with the inquiry they were about to undertake. The interview lasted for more than an hour, and then Justice Fitzgerald convened court and the three commissioners filed in and took their places on the clerk's desk. Harry Thaw was brought into court and found all the members of his family awaiting him. He looked exceedingly well physically, and smiled a greeting to his mother, his wife, his sisters and brothers.

Warned Jury.

Justice Fitzgerald, in discharging the jury until next Monday, warned them to be careful not to discuss the case in any way or to read any newspaper accounts of what is taking place. When the jury filed in to court, it was said that in directing the jury to report next Monday, Justice Fitzgerald did not wholly expect that the commission will be ready to render an opinion by that time.

If the commission's inquiry is prolonged the jury will be called into court every few days, in order that it may be kept fresh.

(Continued on Second Page.)

FILE COMPLAINT AS TO COAL RATES

Local Railways Alleged to be Discriminating Against Richmond.

WILL APPEAL TO COMMISSION

Directors of Chamber of Commerce Also Considers Exposition Rates and Demands Low Fare From Norfolk to Richmond.

An unusually busy meeting of the board of directors of the Chamber of Commerce was held last night. In the course of which a number of matters affecting the welfare of Richmond were discussed. The board took formal action, filing a complaint with the Interstate Commerce Commission in regard to alleged discrimination in the matter of coal rates to Richmond against the city.

The board also discussed at length the passenger rates from Richmond to Norfolk during the Jamestown Exposition, and the importance of securing reciprocal rates from Norfolk to Richmond. Discussion as to the progress of the fund for advertising Richmond and as to the disposition of same, and a number of routine matters brought up by various committees were under discussion.

Complain of Coal Rates.

The first business taken up was the report of the committee on inland trade, Mr. E. C. Laird, chairman, with regard to the rates on steam coal from the mines. The report of this committee was unanimously adopted after discussion, and in accordance with its provisions the Chamber of Commerce will file a complaint with the Interstate Commerce Commission, setting forth the alleged discrimination in the matter of rates.

The report of this committee is as follows:

To the Board of Directors of the Richmond Chamber of Commerce:

Within recent years, owing to the advance of coal at the mines and the increase in rates by the Chesapeake and Ohio and the Norfolk and Western railways, the cost of running the Richmond coal-carrying roads has been increased approximately 50 per cent. This increase has been made by the coal-carrying roads, and it may be said rendered possible by the community of interest between the Chesapeake and Ohio and the Norfolk and Western, which practically eliminated all competition for coal between these two roads to Virginia cities, while they met competition in the open market of the country at comparatively lower prices.

This advanced price in the cost of coal delivered at the Richmond steam plant became an important factor, especially in Baltimore and Philadelphia, where the community of interest between the Chesapeake and Ohio and the Norfolk and Western, which practically eliminated all competition for coal between these two roads to Virginia cities, while they met competition in the open market of the country at comparatively lower prices.

Under these circumstances certain manufacturers of Richmond, with the aid and advice of the Interstate Commerce Commission, and of the Chamber of Commerce, have formulated a complaint to the effect that the coal-carrying roads of Virginia are making a lower rate to non-coal-carrying cities, and are asking that the Interstate Commerce Commission exercise its power of their rate-making power to order that the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway should reduce their rates to the same as they charge these coal-carrying roads.

This complaint, which it is made by the Chamber of Commerce as an organization representing and deeply interested in the manufacturing and commercial interests of Richmond, is being considered at a meeting of the Interstate Commerce Commission, which is being held at the city of Washington, D. C., to-day, and I was directed at said meeting to submit a report setting forth the facts of the case, and to recommend that the committee of the Chamber of Commerce be authorized to submit a report to the Interstate Commerce Commission, which is being held at the city of Washington, D. C., to-day, and I was directed at said meeting to submit a report setting forth the facts of the case, and to recommend that the committee of the Chamber of Commerce be authorized to submit a report to the Interstate Commerce Commission, which is being held at the city of Washington, D. 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